



OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, CIVIL AIR PATROL
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY
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9 September 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL NATIONAL BOARD MEMBERS

SUBJECT: Announcement of National Commander's "Sights on Safety Y2" Program (SOS 2)

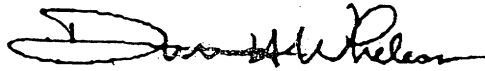
1. The Commander is constantly considering ways in which we as Civil Air Patrol leaders can improve on and then maintain an excellent safety record. Aside from our primary concern for the welfare of our members, our safety record is the yardstick by which many of our customers measure our general competence.
2. This past year the "Sights on Safety" program brought additional attention to getting the safety message across. Those Wings and Squadrons that applied for the cash prizes had obviously given considerable thought to new and many times innovative programs for making safety considerations pervade all their activities.
3. During the coming year the SOS 2 Program is designed to improve the "cross talk" between Civil Air Patrol Units by requiring that EVERY Wing prepare at least one safety program on a VHS tape. The program should be between 15 and 30 minutes. At the end of the year the videotapes will constitute a "library" of safety programs, which will be made available to requesting Wing and Squadron Units for safety programs during following years. To that end, each taped program should emphasize safety concerns that are not specific to momentary safety emphasis, but rather safety concerns which are likely to be recurrent and timely for years to come.
4. Wing Commanders please note that the Wing safety videotape is a requirement whether or not the Wing self-nominates its program for prizes. Squadron Units are not required to submit a videotape but may do so as a part of their self-nomination justification. The SOS 2 program beings immediately and submissions will be required NLT 1 August 2004.
5. The Commander expects Region and Wing Commanders to lead the way to safer operations. A pattern of unsafe operations as evidenced by numerous accidents or incidents, observations by inspection teams or higher Commands of a lack of Unit Command emphasis on safety, or failure to provide the videotape required earlier in this document will be considered a proper cause for removal of a Commander. That's it, plain and simple: either Commanders lead the way, or they step aside. I have great confidence that our Region and Wing Commanders will indeed continue to be flag-carriers for improving and then maintaining our safety record.

6. Safety programs will be judged again this year by our Region Commanders who, to a person, exhibited impartiality and objectivity in selecting last year's program winners. The Commander or Vice-Commander will chair the meeting.

7. In the Wing competition, the best all-round safety program will be selected as first place winner and will receive a cash grant of \$5,000.00; second place a cash grant of \$3,000.00; and third place a grant of \$2,000.00. In the Squadron competition the grants will respectively be \$2,000.00, \$1,000.00 and \$500.00. Last year's winners are encouraged to enter the competition again with new materials.

8. With budgetary constraints being what they are, these grants will divert funds from some other deserving program, but NOTHING IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN PROTECTING THE GOOD HEALTH OF OUR VOLUNTEERS AS WE PERFORM OUR SERVICE TO THIS NATION.

FOR THE COMMANDER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dwight H. Wheless", with a stylized, cursive script.

DWIGHT H. WHELESS
Brigadier General, CAP
Vice Commander

cc:
CAP/EX/GC/SE
BOG